QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Construction of the Vadakkancheri Chira.

365. Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(1) what was the estimate amount for constructing the Vadakkancheri chira;

(2) what were the costs for works additionally sanctioned;

(3) what was the amount of the final bill without making tender deductions;

(4) was not the work sanctioned as an Irrigation Original work;

(5) has there been any irrigation under the chira at all;

(6) if any, what is, the extent and nature of the crops raised;

(7) what is the additional revenue derived by the Government on account of the work and what is the percentage obtained on capital cost;

(8) is there any channel or channels from the chira for irrigation purposes;

(9) if there is any irrigation at all how is it effected without channels;

(10) is not the chira mainly for bathing purposes;

(11) were not the Panchayat people putting up temporary chira for bathing purposes;

(12) what was the amount spent for the temporary chira by the Panchayat every year;

(13) after the construction of the chira is not a temporary bund necessary now also as water leaks through shutters and as no water would remain collected in the chira if no such temporary bund is put up;

(14) what is the cost of the temporary chira now being put up by the P. W. D;

(15) what is the money spent by the P. W. D. for entertainment of a watchman for the chira;

(16) what is the total amount spent by the P. W. D. every year for the up-keep of the chira?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—(1) Rs. 17,200. This is for constructing a chira and bathing ghat on either bank for the use of the Vadakkancheri people on the south and Kumaranellur people on the north.

(2) Rs. 2,072—3—2.

(3) Rs. 18,093—13—11.

(4) Yes.

(5) Yes.

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(6) The exact area cannot be ascertained as the chira only supplements the original irrigation. The paddy lands on the northern side of the chira are benefitted at the 2nd crop.

(7) No additional revenue is derived as the chira is only for protecting the existing lands.

(8) Yes.

(9) The question does not arise in view of the answer to sub-division (8).

(10) It is intended both for irrigation and bathing purposes. It is also used as a foot bridge to cross from one side of the river to the other side.

(11) Yes. But this was at a place below the site at which the masonry chira is constructed.

(12) Rs. 50.

(13) Yes. Shutter planks cannot be made water tight and so some earth has to be put in front of the chira.

14) Rs. 30 in 1107.

(15) Rs.60 annually.

(16) About Rs. 90.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—Is it not the policy of the Government to consider the return also when irrigation works are undertaken?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—For productive irrigation it is necessary that we should consider the return, but for protective irrigation it is not necessary.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—Was the bund in use for irrigation purposes?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—No.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—May I know under whose control these bathing ghats are?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—The Panchayat Registrar says it is not under him. It is not under me.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—Then under which department of the Government is it?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—I was under the impression that it was under the Panchayat Department. I now see that it is not so. We shall take the necessary action to bring it under the control of some department.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—Has it been brought to the notice of the Government that the ghats are kept in a very insanitary condition?

Mr. P. V. Raphael.—It has been brought to the notice of the Government and they have taken the necessary steps. Arrangements have been made to keep them clean.

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Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—Am I to understand that they are regularly swept clean now?

Mr. P. V. Raphael.—Instructions have been given; and I have seen it in a good condition. But I do not know what its present condition is?

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—Will the Government be pleased to see that it is kept in a good and fit condition for the purpose for which it is intended?

Mr. P. V. Raphael.—Steps have been taken to do so.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—But the effect is not seen there.

Mr. P. V. Raphael.—It will be seen.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—May I know what are the steps that were taken?

Mr. P. V. Raphael.—We have asked the sanitary coolies to go and sweep the place.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—How long ago was it?

Mr. P. V. Raphael.—About a year now.

Rates for wirecut bricks for Ernakulam College works.

366. **Mr. T.A. Ramachandra Ayyar.**—Will the Government be pleased to state the rate at which the Stoneware Factory of Chalakkudi supply wirecut bricks at Ernakulam for College works and what were the rates offered by other factories?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—The value of the wirecut bricks supplied by the Government Stoneware works for the College extension works is being adjusted at the rate of Rs. 38—14—0 per 1,000 bricks which is the rate at which the estimate for the College works is worked out.

The rates offered by the different factories are given below:—

1. Harrison and Crossfield, Quilon—Rs. 26 per 1,000 F. O. B. Ernakulam.

2. Standard Tile Works, Alwaye—Rs. 26 workspot.

3. S. R. Industrials, Ollur—Rs. 34—8—0 workspot.

4. Ramapuram Tile Works, Pudukad—Rs. 35 workspot, and thence reduced to Rs. 28 for whole supply for College and Rs. 29 if given only a portion of do.

5. Sivakami Tile Works, Pudukad—Rs. 35 workspot and thehce reduced to Rs. 26 do.

6. Srikrishna Tile Works, Pudukad—Rs. 35 workspot and thence reduced to Rs. 26 do.

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